

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Original) A diorganopolysiloxane composition comprising a source of ferrous ions and 0.0001 - 0.05 wt.% of a bis (2-pyridylthio-1-oxide) non-ferrous metal salt.
2. (Currently Amended) The composition according to ~~[[Claim]]~~ claim 1, which comprises a condensation-reaction-curable diorganopolysiloxane composition.
3. (Currently Amended) The composition according to ~~Claims 1 or 2~~ claim 1, comprising an inorganic filler.
4. (Currently Amended) The composition ~~in accordance with~~ according to claim 3, wherein ~~[[the]]~~ said source of ferrous ions is present in said inorganic filler.
5. (Currently Amended) The composition according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein said source of ferrous ions is iron (II) oxide.
6. (Currently Amended) The composition according to ~~any one of claims 3, 4 or 5~~ claim 3, wherein said inorganic filler is a calcium carbonate powder that contains iron oxide.
7. (Currently Amended) The composition according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, comprising:
 - (A) 100 parts by weight of a diorganopolysiloxane base that contains the following components:

- (A-1) 20 - 100 wt.% of a diorganopolysiloxane capped at both molecular terminals with hydroxyl or hydrolysable groups;
- (A-2) 0 - 80 wt.% of a diorganopolysiloxane capped at one molecular terminal with hydroxyl or hydrolysable groups;
- (A-3) 0 - 80 wt.% of a diorganopolysiloxane that does not have hydroxyl or hydrolysable groups at both molecular terminals;
- (B) 1 - 300 parts by weight of a calcium carbonate powder that contains iron oxide;
- (C) 0.5 to 30 parts by weight of a hydrolysable silane or a partially hydrolyzed product thereof; and
- (D) 0.001 to 10 parts by weight of a curing catalyst.

8. (Currently Amended) The composition of ~~Claim~~ according to claim 7, wherein said curing catalyst is an organ-titanium compound.

9. (Currently Amended) The ~~compound~~ composition according to ~~any preceding~~ claim 1, wherein said bis (2-pyridylthio-1-oxide) non-ferrous metal salt is bis (2-pyridylthio-1-oxide)zinc salt.

10. (Currently Amended) A method of inhibiting or reducing discoloration of a diorganopolysiloxane composition comprising the ~~[[steps]]~~ step of mixing~~[[:]]~~ said composition with the following components in any order:~~[[-]]~~

- i) a source of ferrous ions; and

- ii) 0.0001 - 0.05 wt.% per total weight of the composition of a bis (2-pyridylthio-1-oxide) non-ferrous salt per total weight of the composition.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of inhibiting or reducing discoloration according to [[Claim]] claim 10, wherein the source of ferrous ions is iron (II) oxide.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of inhibiting or reducing discoloration according to [[Claim]] claim 10 ~~or 11~~, wherein the source of ferrous ions is present in the diorganopolysiloxane composition in the form of an impurity in an inorganic filler.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of inhibiting or reducing discoloration according to ~~any of Claims 10, 11 and 12~~ claim 10, wherein the bis (2-pyridylthio-1-oxide) non-ferrous salt is bis (2-pyridylthio-1-oxide) zinc salt.

14. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The method of inhibiting or reducing discoloration according to ~~any of Claims 10 to 13~~ claim 10 wherein there is provided a two part composition comprising a first part which comprises a diorganopolysiloxane polymer and a bis (2-pyridylthio-1-oxide) nonferrous salt and a second part ~~comprising~~ which comprises a diorganopolysiloxane polymer and a source of ferrous ions and said first part is mixed with said second part.

15. (Currently Amended) A diorganopolysiloxane composition discoloration inhibiting or reducing agent comprising the reaction product of:

- i) a source of ferrous ions; and
- ii) 0.0001 - 0.05 wt.% per total weight of the diorganopolysiloxane composition into which it is to be introduced of a bis (2-pyridylthio-1-oxide) non-ferrous salt.

16. (Currently Amended) [[A]] The discoloration inhibiting or reducing agent according to [[Claim]] claim 15, wherein said source of ferrous ions is iron (II) oxide.

17. (Currently Amended) The discoloration inhibiting or reducing agent according to Claims 15 ~~or 16~~, wherein said bis (2-pyridylthio-1-oxide) non-ferrous salt is bis (2-pyridylthio-1-oxide) zinc salt.

18. (Currently Amended) The discoloration inhibiting or reducing agent according to ~~Claims 15, 16 or 17~~ claim 15 wherein the reaction product is bis (2-pyridylthio-1-oxide) ferrous salt.

19. (Currently Amended) A two part composition comprising a first part which comprises a diorganopolysiloxane polymer and a bis (2-pyridylthio-1-oxide) non-ferrous salt and a second part ~~comprising~~ which comprises a diorganopolysiloxane polymer and a source of ferrous ions.

20. (Currently Amended) A two part composition in accordance with claim 19 wherein [[the]] said source of ferrous ions comprises an impurity in an inorganic filler.

21. (Currently Amended) A two part composition in accordance with claim 20 wherein [[the]] said inorganic filler is calcium carbonate.

22. (Currently Amended) Use of an ~~additive~~ agent in accordance with ~~any one of claims 15 to 18~~ claim 15 for inhibiting or reducing discoloration of a diorganopolysiloxane composition.